

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE NEWS FOR SUNDAY 5 JUNE 2022

Good morning and welcome to the weekly news bulletin of the South African Radio League read by [your name, call sign and QTH]

The South African Radio League broadcasts a news bulletin each Sunday in Afrikaans and English at 08:15 and 08:30 Central African Time respectively on HF and various VHF and UHF repeaters around the country. The bulletin is relayed on Echolink by Johan, ZS6JPL. The audio bulletins can be downloaded from the League website at <http://www.sarl.org.za> while the text bulletin can be downloaded from <https://sarlnnewsbulletin.wordpress.com>. To join the MailChimp bulletin mailing list, send an e-mail to the SARL Secretary.

While the problems experienced by some members accessing the SARL web pages are being attended to, an additional channel is now available. To download the weekly SARL News audio recordings and to listen to, or download Amateur Radio Today, log on to www.amateurradio.org.za.

In the news today:

THE SARL TOP BAND QSO PARTY THIS WEEK

AO-73/FUNCUBE-1 MESSAGE FOR 70TH JUBILEE CELEBRATION

and

THE SANDTON MID-WINTER FOX HUNT

Stay tuned for more information on these and other interesting news items.

THE SARL TOP BAND QSO PARTY THIS WEEK

The Top Band QSO Party is a fun activity to promote contacts on 160 metres between radio amateurs in Southern African countries and to encourage radio amateurs to apply for the South African Radio League Top Band Award. The QSO Party runs from 22:01 UTC on 7 June to 21:59 UTC on Sunday 12 June 2022. The exchange is a RS or RST report and your 4-character grid square (e.g., KG30) and you are welcome to ragchew!

On Wednesday 8 June and Saturday 11 June it is CW activity only and on Thursday 9 and Friday 10 June and Sunday 12 June it is phone activity. Each station can be worked once per mode i.e., once on Phone and again with CW and you earn 2 points for each QSO and 2 points for each new grid square worked. Submit your log sheet by 21:59 UTC on Friday 17 June 2022 by e-

mail to info@zs6wr.co.za. Turn to page 38 of the 2022 Blue Book for all the information.

SARL CONTEST WORKING GROUP

On Thursday evening 2 June a Skype meeting was held with Nico, ZS6QL, Karel, ZS6WN, Kobie, ZS6KVZ, Brian, ZS6BV/3 and Dennis, ZS4BS discussing the 2023 Blue Book, the management of the contests and contesting software. It was decided to extend an invitation to testers to join the Contest Working Group, please contact Karel, ZS6WN on e-mail zs6wn@bezts.co.za.

AO-73/FUNCUBE-1 MESSAGE FOR 70TH JUBILEE CELEBRATION

In June 2022, Her Majesty the Queen becomes the first British Monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee after 70 years of service. AMSAT-UK has decided to send a special Platinum Jubilee greetings message via FUNCube-1 (AO-73). Anyone who receives this message and uploads it to the Data Warehouse at <http://data.amsat-uk.org/missions> using the Dashboard <https://funcube.org.uk/working-documents/funcube-telemetry-dashboard/> can generate a certificate to remember this historic event. AO-73/FUNCube-1 is transmitting the Jubilee Fitter message on the BPSK Telemetry beacon which has a nominal frequency of 145,935 MHz +/- Doppler.

You are listening to a news bulletin of the South African Radio League.

RADIO ZS CELEBRATES 75 YEARS IN JULY

Thank you to Hannes, ZS6BZP and Danie, ZS1DBJ for your articles for the special 75th anniversary issue of Radio ZS. Members and Clubs are invited to submit articles for this special issue, send your article to radiozs@sarl.org.za in MS Word or OpenOffice format. The closing date is Friday 24 June 2022.

CLUB NEWS

The Sandton ARC say they know you could not make the last social and Fox hunt event and that you are waiting patiently for the next one! So here is the information. The next fox hunt will include Glühwein and Coffee, perhaps even some soup on this almost mid-Winter evening social and quickie Fox hunt adventure.

We will be meeting in the parking area of the Bryanston Pine Forest, in Bryanston, Johannesburg at 18:00 CAT on Wednesday 15 June 2022, the evening before the public holiday, so you can sleep in the next day. Please bring along a torch, warm clothes, your thermos, handheld radio and come join us for a fun filled early evening adventure. For directions, just type Bryanston Pine Forest into Waze or Google maps, who will then accurately guide you to the venue. Visit the SARL upcoming events for further details.

Other Clubs are invited to submit details about their meetings and activities. There may be visitors in your Club area.

CONTEST NEWS

The aim of the Hammies QSO Party is to promote contacts between Hammies/Young radio amateurs and older radio amateurs in Southern African countries with an emphasis on ZU stations. The QSO Party will run from 14:00 to 15:00 UTC on Sunday 12 June 2022.

The SARL Youth QSO Party is a fun activity to celebrate the Youth and to promote contacts between young radio amateurs in Southern African countries. Call “CQ Youth Sprint!” This QSO Party runs from 12:00 to 13:00 UTC on Thursday 16 June 2022 which is Youth Day. Get all the information on pages 30 and 31 of the 2022 Blue Book.

From the information received, it looks like 4 logs were received for the May SARL VHF/UHF Digital contest from the fourteen participants.

1st Carl, ZS6CBQ - 8 160 points

2nd Hennie, ZS6EY - 7 052 points

3rd Dick, ZS6BUN - 4 760 points

4th Kobus, ZS6BOS - 3 544 points

The furthest distance worked on 6 and 2 metres was 453 km and 567 km on 70 cm.

PROPAGATION REPORT

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the solar activity is expected to be at low levels. There are currently 4 sunspots with simple magnetic configurations visible. There is a moderate possibility for C- and low probability for M-class flaring. If you want to do your own frequency predictions, the expected effective sunspot number for the week will be around 35. The 15 to 30 m bands may provide some good DX fun, especially in late afternoons.

Please visit the website spaceweather.sansa.org.za for further information.

Finally, a diary of some upcoming events:

Today – the IARU Region 1 and the RSGB CW Field Days

8 to 12 June – the SARL Top Band QSO Party

11 June – the closing date for SARL VHF/UHF FM contest logs

12 June – the Hammies QSO Party

15 June – the Sandton Fox Hunt

16 June - Youth Day and the SARL Youth QSO Party

17 June – World QRP Day, a school holiday and the closing date for Hammies and Top Band log sheets

18 June – the SARL Saturday 40 m Club contest

19 June – Father’s Day

21 June - the Winter Solstice at 11:13 CAT and the closing date for Youth logs

23 June – the closing date for Club contest logs

24 June – the provincial schools close for the winter holiday

To conclude our bulletin, a recap of our main news story:

The Top Band QSO Party is a fun activity to promote contacts on 160 metres. The QSO Party runs from 22:01 UTC on 7 June to 21:59 UTC on Sunday 12 June 2022. The exchange is a RS or RST report and your 4-character grid square (e.g., KG30) and you are welcome to ragchew! Please read the rules on page 38 of the 2022 Blue Book.

This concludes our bulletin for this morning.

We invite clubs and individuals to submit news items of interest to radio amateurs and shortwave listeners, in both English and Afrikaans, if possible, by following the News Inbox link on the South African Radio League web page. News items to be included in the bulletin should reach the news team no later than the Friday afternoon preceding the bulletin date.

You are welcome to join us every Sunday morning for the weekly radio programme, Amateur Radio Today at 10:00 CAT. The programme can be heard on VHF and UHF repeaters countrywide and on 7 082 kHz lower side-band by courtesy of Louis, ZS5LP. A rebroadcast by Andy, ZS6ADY can be heard on Monday evenings at 19:30 CAT on 3 620 kHz.

We welcome your signal reports, comments, and suggestions; please send these by e-mail to artoday@sarl.org.za.

You have listened to a news bulletin written by Dennis Green, ZS4BS, proof read by Dave Reece, ZS1DFR and read by

From the news team, best wishes for the week ahead.